IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with <u>underlining</u> and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please AMEND claims 1-13 in accordance with the following:

1.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting system, comprising:

a part reporting registration certification to an accounting server from a terminal device, when contents to be charged for are accessed in the terminal device and which is previously registered in said accounting server;

a part confirming propriety of the reported registration certification in said accounting server, and performing fee charging; and

a part, when the propriety of the registration certification is confirmed, reporting permission of access to the contents, from said accounting server to said terminal device, and making the contents accessible in said terminal device, wherein~~:~~

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server~~;~~ and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

2.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method, comprising ~~of~~:

~~a)~~ reporting, via a computer, registration certification to an accounting server from a terminal device when contents to be charged for are accessed in the terminal device and which is previously registered in said accounting server;

~~b)~~ confirming propriety of the reported registration certification in said accounting server, and performing fee charging; and

~~c)~~ when the propriety of the registration certification is confirmed, reporting permission of access to the contents, from said accounting server to said terminal device, and making the contents accessible in said terminal device, wherein~~:~~

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is

referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

3.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method, comprising: t

determining, via a computer, whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied, when the contents are accessed; and

enabling access to the contents when the condition for accessing the contents is satisfied, and enabling access to the contents after performing fee charging when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

4.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method, comprising:

determining, via a computer, whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied;

reporting fee charging to an accounting server when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied; and

updating from said accounting server the condition for accessing the contents into a condition such that the contents can be accessed, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

5.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting method, comprising:

receiving, via a computer, a certificate previously issued for registration information of a terminal device, and determining whether or not the certificate is valid;

transmitting the determination result to said terminal device, generating information indicating that a condition for accessing contents is satisfied when the determination result is that the certificate is valid, and transmitting the generated information to said terminal device; and

charging said terminal device, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

6.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A content executing device, comprising:

a determining part determining whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied, when the contents are accessed; and

an access control part enabling the access to the contents when the condition for accessing the contents is satisfied as a result of the determination by said determining part, and enabling the access to the contents after performing fee charging when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when a license file shows validity, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file does not show validity, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

7.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting monitoring device, comprising:

a determining part determining whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied;

an accounting reporting part reporting fee charging to an accounting server when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied as a result of the determination result of said

determining part; and

a updating part updating, by a condition for accessing the contents, provided from said accounting server, the condition for accessing the contents so that the contents can be accessed , wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server, and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

8.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The accounting monitoring device as claimed in claim 7, wherein said determining part, accounting reporting part and updating part are achieved on an OS operating system of a terminal device.

9.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) An accounting control device, comprising:

a certificate determining part receiving a certificate previously issued for registration information of a terminal device, and determining whether or not the certificate is valid;

an information updating part transmitting the determination result from said certificate determining part to said terminal device, generating information indicating that a condition for accessing contents is satisfied when the determination result is that the certificate is valid, and transmitting the generated information to said terminal device; and

an accounting part charging said terminal device, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server, and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

10.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium storing therein a program controlling a computer to perform processing, comprising:

determining whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied, when the contents are accessed; and

enabling the access to the contents when the condition for accessing the contents is satisfied as a result of the determination made of the determining, and enabling the access to the contents after performing fee charging when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

11.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium storing therein a program controlling a computer to perform processing, comprising:

determining whether or not a condition for accessing contents is satisfied;

reporting fee charging to an accounting server when the condition for accessing the contents is not satisfied as a result of the determination of said determining; and

updating, by a condition for accessing the contents, provided from said accounting server, the condition for accessing the contents so that the contents can be accessed, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.

12.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The recording medium as claimed in claim 11, wherein said steps a), b) and c)determining, reporting and updating are executed on an operating system of said computer.

13.   (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer-readable recording medium storing therein a program controlling a computer to confirm propriety of a reported registration certificate, by:

receiving a certificate previously issued for registration information of a terminal device, and determining whether or not the certificate is valid;

transmitting the determination result of the determining to said terminal device, generating information indicating that a condition for accessing contents is satisfied when the determination result is that the certificate is valid, and transmitting the generated information to said terminal device; and

charging said terminal device, wherein:

when access is made to the contents, a license file in the terminal device is referred to, and, when the license file is determined to be valid, access to the contents is continued without accessing the accounting server; and

when the license file is not determined to be valid, access to the accounting server is carried out, notification of charging is made to the accounting server and, after the completion of the charging, access to the contents is continued.